

**POLITICAL SCIENCE  
MASTER OF ARTS****ONLINE**

The Political Science Master's Degree at the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS) merges the academic and practical aspects of politics together in a unique curriculum that prepares students to apply their learning to the real world. In our online Political Science Master's Degree Program we offer emphasis in the areas of American National and State Politics, Comparative Politics/International Relations, Political Theory, and Public Law. Our Program is a good fit for students who want to pursue careers in practical politics, for those who are preparing to teach, and for those who aspire to earn an advanced degree in political science or law.

**TARGET AUDIENCE:**

Students from diverse academic backgrounds and working professionals. Working professionals can take just one course a semester, while full-time students can take a full course load.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:**

- A minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.00 scale.
- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
- International applicants must satisfy the UIS English proficiency requirements <https://www.uis.edu/international-applicants/english-proficiency-requirements>
- No prerequisites, but students without statistical methods experience are required to take PSC 451: Empirical Political Analysis as an elective within the program.

To apply to the Political Science Master's Degree Program, applicants must:

- Submit the UIS Graduate Application at (<https://www.uis.edu/apply>) and application fee.
- Submit official copies of transcripts from all colleges and universities attended to the UIS Admissions Office.
- GRE scores are not required.
- A statement of Purpose (500-800 words) that highlights the applicant's educational background, why they're interested in the program, their scholarly interests and career goals.

**COST:**

For current UIS E-tuition and fees, visit: <https://www.uis.edu/cost-aid>.

**REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:**

To register, please contact the Political Science Online Coordinator at (217) 206-8545.

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR:**

Fall, spring and summer semesters.

**DELIVERY MODE:**

Fully online—no on-campus meetings are required.

**TEXTBOOK PURCHASE:**

Required textbooks may be ordered from the bookstore or (217) 206-6766.

**TRANSFER HOURS POLICY:**

[www.uis.edu/international-applicants/english-proficiency-requirements](https://www.uis.edu/international-applicants/english-proficiency-requirements)

All transfer credit hours are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the Political Science Department. Up to 12 credit hours of prior graduate credit where a "B" or better was earned may be accepted.

**FINANCIAL AID INFO:**

For information on financial aid, please contact the UIS Financial Assistance Office at (217) 206-6724 or [www.uis.edu/financialaid](https://www.uis.edu/financialaid).

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:**

Courses are taught by the same high-caliber faculty members who teach our on-campus courses. Degree can be completed in two years by attending full-time, but many working professionals choose to be part-time, taking three to four years to complete their degree.

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

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One University Plaza  
MS PAC 350  
Springfield, IL 62703

**WEBSITE:**

<https://www.uis.edu/spia/political-science-ma>

**REQUIRED COURSES:**

40 hours of required core courses and electives. A minimum of 28 credit hours must be taken at the 500-level and only 8 credit hours may be taken outside of Political Science Department.

Core Courses (12 credit hours)  
PSC 501: Intro to the Graduate Study of Politics (4 credit hours)  
PSC 502: Methods of Inquiry (4 credit hours)  
PSC 590: Closure Exercise (4 credit hours)

Electives (28 credit hours)  
Students are allowed 28 credit hours of electives to specialize in a subfield such as American National and State Politics, Comparative Politics/International Relations, Political Theory, and Public Law.